



***Delanco Shade Tree Commission***

***Minutes of Regular Meeting  
October 22, 2008***

***Call to Order***

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Matulewicz at 7:05 P.M.

***Flag Salute***

The flag salute was conducted by the Commission.

***Sunshine Statement***

The Sunshine Statement was read aloud by Chairman Matulewicz.

***Roll Call***

Members present at this meeting were: Chairman Matulewicz, Mr. Taraschi, Mr. Lacina, Mr. Schmitt, and Mrs. Towell.

***Approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting of August 27, 2008.***

Motion to approve the Minutes from the meeting of August 27, 2008 was made by Mr. Taraschi, and seconded by Mr. Schmitt. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

***Approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting of September 24, 2008.***

Motion to approve the minutes from the meeting of September 24, 2008 was made by Mr. Taraschi, and seconded by Mr. Schmitt. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

***Public Forum***

Mr. and Mrs. Karwacki of 734 Third Street were in attendance. Their request to have their tree removed was previously denied. The Karwacki's need the sidewalk replaced after a rental inspection. There was a discussion of cutting the tree roots. The homeowners will produce the rental report. This specimen was scheduled for re-inspection by Mr. Taraschi and Mr. Schmitt on October 24.

Mr. and Mrs. Bollers of 704 Hickory Street were also in attendance. The Bollers brought their site plans and permits for the Commission to review. No variances were need as the new house was built on the same foot print as the old one. Chairman Matulewicz inquired as to when the plans were brought to the Code Official and whether there was a discussion of the tree. Mr. Bollers thought tree might be removed as part of Walnut Street revitalization. Mr. Taraschi feels that because the tree is healthy, there is no reason for the township to incur the cost of removal. Mr. Taraschi recommends removal, at the homeowners expense. Chairman Matulewicz said that there is precedent for the homeowner to incur the cost, as with builders. Chairman Matulewicz agreed with Mr. Taraschi in that the Commission needs to approve the removal. Mr. Bollers stated that he didn't receive notification. Mrs. Towell stated that she sent a request to Mr. Bollers for permits and variances granted. Chairman Matulewicz stated that the tree is the homeowners responsibility. Mr. Bollers wanted to locate the garage elsewhere, but was not permitted to do so by the Township. There was a discussion with regard to the wires in the trees and the need to have this work done by certified workers. Chairman Matulewicz will send a letter to Mr. Bollers via email, with a copy to Mr. Fenimore, granting him approval to remove the tree at his expense.

Mr. Taraschi made a motion to approve the removal of the tree at the homeowners expense. Mr. Schmitt seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously with no abstentions.

### ***Old Work***

#### ***Snyder - 405 Maple Ave.***

The homeowner requests removal of this tree. The homeowner is fearful that the tree will fall on wires or children. This case was assigned to Mr. Schmitt and Mr. Lacina. Mrs. Towell said that she believed this tree to be down, and that she would check on it make sure. (This Maple is 40% dead, and has not been removed as of 10/17/08; Mrs. Towell sent Mr. Fenimore an email regarding removal.)

Mr. Taraschi and Mr. Schmitt will inspect this specimen on October 24.

#### ***Cesaretti - 301 Willow Street - Mr. Taraschi***

The homeowner requests removal of a dying tree to the left of his residence. This case was assigned to Mr. Taraschi.

Mr. Taraschi inspected this tree and reported that while the tree did seem to be in distress, it exhibited new growth in various places. After a review of his pictures, the membership decided to place this tree on hold until it leafs out in the spring.

#### ***Bollers - 704 Hickory Street - Mrs. Towell***

Homeowners request removal of large tree on Walnut Street side, as it will be in the path of the garage of the new home they're building. (At the homeowner's previous request, Mrs. Towell sent them an email requesting copies of site plans and permits

granted.) On 10/17/2008, Mrs. Towell spoke with Mrs. Bollers and requested plans and permits. She advised the homeowner of the 10/22 meeting. Mrs. Bollers said that Mr. Bollers would attend. (Matter was resolved in Public Forum.)

***First Presbyterian Church - 505 Union Avenue - Chairman Matulewicz***

Property owners request removal of this tree. Mrs. Towell looked at this large oak on the Poplar Street side of the building and estimates it to be 40-50% dead. It is the second tree from the corner of Union Street. This case was assigned to Chairman Matulewicz. Chairman Matulewicz inspected this tree and recommends removal. During inspection, he also looked at 508 Poplar St. and recommends removal of that tree as well. He directed Mrs. Towell to place both trees on the list for Mr. Fenimore.

**NEW WORK**

***Provenzano - 702 Chestnut Street***

The homeowner requests removal of the tree in front of the residence. The request states that there is significant 'blow down' during storms. (Mrs. Towell inspected this tree in the past and recommended removal.) This specimen has been removed per Mrs. Towell.

***Dydek - 300 Magnolia Lane***

The homeowner's request reads: "Tree is raising sidewalks + curb/ roots in sewer. Tree drops large branches 8" in diameter. Dead branch over power lines to house. Cannot safely park under the tree. (This is third request.) Note: I do not want to be responsible for any damage." Mr. Taraschi inspected this tree and recommends that it be thoroughly trimmed. By unanimous agreement, this specimen will be forwarded to Public Works for trimming.

***Boyle - 312 Princeton Avenue***

The homeowner reports this tree on the corner of Goucher and Princeton is 'dead and dropping branches on street and property. Bus stop is at this corner, dangerous for the children. Please also check the tree on the Goucher side of the property. Dead branches keep falling." (Mrs. Towell is familiar with the oak tree on the corner of Goucher and Princeton. It is 100% dead.) After inspection of the trees, Mrs. Towell recommends trimming the tree at the front of the residence, and removing the tree on the corner of Goucher and Princeton. By unanimous consent, the Commission accepted Mrs. Towell's recommendation.

**NEW WORK**

***FITZGERALD - 219 Buttonwood Street***

Homeowner reports low hanging branches on street tree . The tree located on Rancocas Ave., near fire hydrant. Chairman Matulewicz will inspect this tree.

## ***SPILLANE - 210 Magnolia Lane***

The homeowner reports the tree is dead, is a hazard to people and property, requests removal. Mr. Schmitt will inspect this tree.

### ***Correspondence***

Mrs. Towell sent Mrs. DiSibio an updated list of trees forwarded to Public Works for action, and the minutes from the regular meeting of June 25, and August 27, 2008.

A request for the per capita expenditure was sent to Mr. Fenimore and Mrs. Lohr.

A hard copy of the updated list of trees was put in Mr. Fenimore's mail box.

A postcard was sent to Snyder, Cesaretti, Allchin, and Karwacki advising them of the Commission's decision in their cases.

A Purchase Order for \$300 and registration forms for Mr. Lacina, Mr. Taraschi and Mr. Schmitt were sent to the NJ Shade Tree Federation on 10/10/08 via Priority Mail, to attend the October 24 session at the Annual meeting.

Mrs. Towell called Mrs. Bollers and asked her to provide site plans and permits for her new residence on Hickory Street. She also sent a reminder postcard to the Bollers.

### ***Open Forum***

Tree City Application status: The only item needed for submission is the per capita expenditure figure from Mr. Fenimore. (Mrs. Towell sent a second email to Mr. Fenimore and Mrs. Lohr requesting this information.)

The Commissions Management Plan needs to be updated.

The seminar for Commission members with Mr. Scibilia, tentatively scheduled for the end of September, is now on hold until the second half of October. The seminar could take place as late as November 15.

The NJ Shade Tree Federation Annual Meeting: A check was sent to the Federation for Mr. Schmitt, Mr. Lacina, and Mr. Taraschi to attend the 10/24/08 CORE session. The application was sent on 10/10/08 via Priority Mail.

### ***Adjournment***

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Taraschi and seconded by Mrs. Towell.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

Minutes prepared by:



(Electronic Signature)

Barbara Towell, Secretary

Delanco Shade Tree Commission